(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the quantity of Beef likely to be imported;

(c) whether any measures are being taken by the Government to stop such imports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Dues from PSUs in U.P

475. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Public Sector Undertakings in Uttar Pradesh, as on date;

(b) the arrears of U.P. Electricity Board Outstanding against these undertakings towards power supply till date; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the UPEB to recover the arrears from these undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) 18 central PSUs have their registered offices in the State of U.P. As per the available information, no dues are pending in respect to one of these. The amount of outstanding dues between UPEB and central PSUs keeps on varying from time to time. This matter comes under the day-to-day affairs of the PSUs which are not monitored by the Central Government.

[English]

Withdrawal of Turban from Sikh Class IV Employees of LIC

476. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government is aware that Sikh Class IV employees of the LIC of India used to get "Turban" as a part of their uniform;

(b) whether the Turban has now been withdrawn from the uniform of the Sikh Class IV employees of the LIC; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has reported that prior to 1983, the uniform for their Class IV employees used to be cotton shirt and pant, and a cap in the case of non-sikh employees and a turban in the case of Sikh employees. Since 1983, on the demand of the Employees' Unions, the cotton shirt and pant were replaced with terrycot shirt and pant, and the cap in the case of non-sikh employees and the turban in the case of Sikh employees was discontinued.

Transfer of Shares

477. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 4975 dated May 7, 1997 regarding transfer of shares and state:

(a) whether the requisite information has been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be laid on the Table of the House; and

(d) the steps taken to redress the grievances of investors, particularly mentioned in part (b) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d) The information in being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Duty-Evasion

478. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 1248 dated February 28, 1997 regarding duty evasion and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The information has since been collected.

(b) A show cause-notice was issued to M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd., (RIL) Patalganga on 4.12.92 demanding Central Excise duty amounting to Rs. 16.4 crores approximately, which was adjudicated on 28.8.96. The Customs. Excise & Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal, Mumbai vide their order dated 10.10.98 had rejected and application of M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd. for waiver of pre-deposit of amount and directed them to deposit the total amount within 3 months from the date of the order. Now, it has been reported that an amount of Rs. 16,39,84,343 has been deposited by M/s. RIL.

(c) On the basis of the information received, the assurance given to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1248 dated 28.2.97 was fulfilled on 21.4.97 within the stipulated time of 3 months.